

SOUTH KESTEVEN  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

---

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE

YEAR 1950



# South Kesteven Rural District Council

## Public Health Committee

### Chairman—

Councillor G. H. Taylor

### Vice-Chairman—

Councillor E. W. Mason

### Members—

Councillor	T. W. Atkinson	Councillor	T. G. Holmes
„	Mrs. C. A. Baker	„	F. Key
„	C. F. Bates	„	Rev. C. Letts
„	K. Bates	„	J. H. Lewis
„	H. W. Bailey	„	Rev. L. F. Pigott
„	E. B. Binns	„	C. J. Pope
„	C. A. Blason	„	A. W. Pratt
„	G. G. Crowson	„	G. Sandall
„	R. S. Cusden	„	F. G. Smith
„	Hon. Mountjoy-Fane	„	Mrs. B. Spence
„	C. H. Feneley	„	E. E. Story
„	A. J. Freeman	„	Hon. Mrs. D. N.
„	G. A. Griffin		Trollope-Bellew
„	T. Holmes	„	G. E. Walton

---

## STAFF OF THE Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health	J. A. Galletly, M.A., M. B., B.Chir. (Camb.) D.P.H.
Chief Sanitary Inspector	Walter A. Chivers, M.R. San. I., M.S.I.A.
Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector	James G. Clements, M.R. San. I., M.S.I.A.
Assistant Sanitary Inspector	... .. B. F. Larkinson
Shorthand-Typist and General Clerk	... .. Mrs. J. E. Fisher-Smith
Junior Clerk	... .. Miss C. Gilbert
Clerk of the Council	... J. J. C. Goulder

**SOUTH KESTEVEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

---

***Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health  
and  
Chief Sanitary Inspector for the Year 1950.***

**To the Chairman and Members  
of the South Kesteven Rural District Council.**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my report and that of your Chief Sanitary Inspector for 1950.

**Section A.      Statistics and Social Conditions.**

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	95,061
Population (Registrar General's figures, 1950)	...	...	...	...	...	...	14,230
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,194
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£40,078
Sum represented by a 1d. rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£153

**Vital Statistics.**

	M.	F.	Total
Live Births	129	116	245
Still Births	4	6	10
Deaths	107	70	177
Total number of Births in 1949 — 259 : Males 158, Females 101			
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	...	...	—
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough	...	...	—
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	—

## Causes of Death.

						M.	F.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...		1	1
Cancer	...	...	...	...		6	5
Cerebral Haemorrhage	...	...	...	...		18	9
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...		36	17
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...		2	1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...		4	5
Nephritis	...	...	...	...		1	1
Suicide	...	...	...	...		1	—
Senility	...	...	...	...		—	—
Accidental Death	...	...	...	...		3	2
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...		3	0
Diabetes	...	...	...	...		1	—
Immaturity	...	...	...	...		—	—
Other Defined Diseases	...	...	...	...		31	29

## Section B.      General Provisions of Health Services                                  of the Area.

1950 saw a mild epidemic of measles, 199 cases, of which 87 were in the 5-10 age group, and of which 88 occurred in the Deepings.

There were nine cases of Infantile Paralysis, of which 4 occurred in the Aslackby-Folkingham area in August at the height of the epidemic in the north/east of the County and 5 in the Swayfield-Counthorpe area in October. There were no deaths. The most exhaustive enquiries were made in each case, water supplies were investigated and close contact maintained with the County Council and the Ministry of Health, from both of whom invaluable help and advice was obtained.

There was no difficulty in getting these cases admitted to hospital, nor any other cases of infectious disease that needed hospital treatment.

The admission of the aged and infirm is still difficult. Long waiting periods are the rule. Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948 has not had to be involved. Your Officials try by every means in their power to see that the moral responsibility of the family to look after their own is brought home to would be backsliders.

Under the 1948 set up the close control both administratively and clinically of Infectious Disease by the Medical Officer of Health of the Local Authority is lessened ; a most retrograde feature.

## Section C.      Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

The Council's Water Scheme is complete save for the finishing touches. Approximately 49½ miles of piping have been laid.

The Council's Sewerage Schemes have been approved for Billingborough and Horbling, for Corby, and for Baston, Langtoft and the Deepings. These Schemes were prepared over 4 years ago. If prompt sanction had been given, they would have been in operation by now with the saving of many thousands of pounds.



One has only to look at the sewer-like Glen at Corby and the open ditch at Baston, to realize their need. It is a wonder that no serious outbreak of disease has occurred, and the limestone at Corby outcrops in the Glen River bed with swallow holes there !

The Refuse Scheme is working well, though there are still unsightly dumps about, a reflection on the curious mentality of the people that feed them.

The Nightsoil Collection Scheme is providing a boon. The difficulties associated with its disposal, and the possible risks to water pollution therefrom are appreciated and much time and thought has been expended on their solution and avoidance.

Water samples are taken regularly.

## Section D. Housing.

Full details will be found in your Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Progress has been made, but the number of new houses has not caught up with the marriage and birth rates.

Great misery is still caused to many young couples who have been waiting for a long time now for a home of their own.

The Council is not to blame. In face of great difficulties, it has done what it can.

I would again urge that regular inspection of Council houses be done, so that the dirty, destructive tenants are either kept up to the mark or evicted to make place for those who would treat their home as it should be.

## Section E. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

A detailed report will be found in your Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Ice cream supplies are under constant supervision.

The complicated set up for milk supervision is so complex that reports on the state of various milk supplies, never filter through to the Local Authority, save those that come from the County Council (from Pasteurising Plants).

Some small improvements have been made at the Central Slaughter house in Bourne, but as regards the supply of hot water it has been the case of penny wise and pound foolish.

The transport of meat from the slaughterhouse to the various butchers is still most unhygienic. It is extraordinary that with all the resources of the State at its disposal, the Ministry concerned can still not provide covering for the carcasses, nor a type of van which will enable the men not to have to dump or drag the carcase over the soiled floor of the vehicle.

**Analysis of Cases of Infectious Diseases under age groups.**

Age Periods		Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cerebro Spinal Fever	Measles	Whooping Cough	Erysipelas	Dysentery	Acute Poliomyelitis
0—1	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	—	—	—
1—2	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	21	4	—	—	1
2—3	...	—	—	—	1	—	—	25	9	—	—	—
3—4	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	5	—	—	—
4—5	...	7	—	—	1	—	—	23	3	—	—	—
5—10	...	10	—	—	1	—	—	87	20	—	—	3
10—15	...	2	—	—	1	—	—	15	1	—	—	2
15—20	...	2	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
20—35	...	1	—	—	2	—	—	5	1	1	—	—
35—45	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
45—65	...	1	—	—	4	—	—	1	—	2	—	1
65 and over	...	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals	...	23	—	—	13	—	—	199	44	5	—	9
Admitted to Hospital	...	1	—	—	3	—	—	1	—	1	—	6

**Cancer Deaths.**

				Died at home	
				Ages	
				M.	F.
Stomach	...	...	...	72, 68, 66	64, 63
Colon	...	...	...	66	91, 75
Rectum	...	...	...	78	—
Cervix	...	...	...	—	60, 45
Breast	...	...	...	—	49

**Tuberculosis New Cases and Mortality during 1950.**

		NEW CASES				DEATHS			
Age Periods		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—2	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2—5	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	...	—	—	2	4	—	—	1	—
15—25	...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55—65	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
65 and over	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

In conclusion, I would like to thank my fellow officials for their ready help and conscientiousness.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. A. GALLETLY.  
Medical Officer of Health.

---

# FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

The Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in Respect of the Year 1950 for the Rural District of South Kesteven in the County of (Kesteven) Lincolnshire.

## PART 1 OF THE ACT.

### 1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	9	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	73	14	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	82	14	—	—



2.—Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Insufficient ... ..	1	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ... ..	1	—	—	—	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

Outwork.

Nature of Work	No. of Out-workers	No. of cases of default in sending lists to Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc.	2	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	2	—	—	—	—	—

J. A. GALLETLY,  
Medical Officer of Health.

# SOUTH KESTEVEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
41, North Street,  
Bourne Lincs.  
May, 1951.

## To the Chairman and Members of the South Kesteven Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you the following report regarding the work carried out by your Sanitary Inspectors during the year 1950.

### 1. Statistics.

Total number of inspections carried out	...	...	4246
Number of sanitary works completed	...	...	100
Number of letters and notices despatched	...	...	1835

### 2. Details of Visits.

Water Supplies	...	45	Housing Visits	...	...	1574	
Water Samples	...	...	32	P.H.A. Nuisances	...	31	
Drainage	...	...	703	Food & Drugs Act	...	11	
Drain Tests	...	...	82	Ice Cream Premises	...	37	
Building Licences	...	61	Ice Cream Samples	...	...	18	
Building Inspections	...	361	Verminous Premises	...	...	3	
Moveable Dwellings	...	18	Factories Act	...	...	3	
Infectious Disease	...	23	Rats and Mice	...	...	21	
Refuse Disposal	...	65	Fried Fish Shops	...	...	3	
Slaughterhouse	...	...	273	Bakehouses	...	...	4
Dairies	...	...	16	Petroleum Acts	...	...	129
Disinfestations	...	...	4	Outworkers	...	...	1
Dirty houses	...	...	4	Pail Emptying Scheme	...	...	162
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits			...	...	...	562	

### 3. Inspection and Supervision of Food Supplies.

(a) MILK. As the Council is no doubt aware, the duties in connection with the registration of dairy farmers and dairy farms were transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in October, 1949, consequently no routine inspections were carried out by this Council's Officers at cowsheds and dairies at dairy farms during the year.

This Council is responsible now for the registration of Distributors (i.e. persons trading as dairymen from premises other than at dairy

farms) and of dairies other than at dairy farms. Sixteen inspections were carried out at such dairies and one dairy was reconstructed and brought up to the required standard during the year.

(b) ICE CREAM. Thirty-seven visits were made to the two premises in the District where ice cream is manufactured and to the several shops where ice cream is sold by retail.

Eighteen samples of ice cream were taken from these premises and it is gratifying to record that the improvement noted during 1949 has been well maintained during the year under review, insomuch as ten of the eighteen samples were placed in Provisional Grade 1. and four in Provisional Grade 2 which are satisfactory.

Details of the eighteen samples taken and of the results of the analyses thereof are as follows :-

Date	Sample Number	Identification Reference of Manufacturer	Source of Sample	Methylene Blue Test Provisional Grade
14.8.50	1	M/1. S.K.R.D.	From freezer	3
14.8.50	2	M/2. S.K.R.D.	From freezer	4
14.8.50	3	M/3. Outside Area.	From freezer	3
14.8.50	4	M/4. Outside Area.	From freezer	1
14.8.50	5	M/5. Outside Area.	From freezer	2
14.8.50	6	M/6. Outside Area.	From freezer	2
14.8.50	7	M/7. Outside Area.	From freezer	1
14.8.50	8	M/8. Outside Area.	From freezer.	1
14.8.50	9	M/9. Outside Area.	From freezer.	1
17.11.50	10	M/4. Outside Area.	From freezer.	1
17.11.50	11	M/9. Outside Area.	From freezer	1
17.11.50	12	M/1. S.K.R.D.	From freezer.	2
17.11.50	13	M/7. Outside Area.	From freezer.	2
17.11.50	14	M/3. Outside Area.	From freezer.	1
17.11.50	15	M/5. Outside Area.	From freezer.	1
17.11.50	16	M/6. Outside Area.	From freezer.	4
17.11.50	17	M/2. S.K.R.D.	From freezer	1
17.11.50	18	M/8. Outside Area.	From freezer.	1

(c) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS. Once again it is gratifying to record that all the animals slaughtered at the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse, Bourne, during the year have been inspected by the Officers of the Bourne Urban District Council and of this Council.

Minor improvements such as the concreting of the yard and the provision of a piped supply of hot water to the slaughterhouse from a large copper, have been carried out during the year, but the latter improvement has not satisfactorily solved this problem as the new copper requires an uneconomical amount of fuel to function properly, consequently it is rarely used, the former copper in the yard being still utilised.



Conditions in regard to the facilities necessary for the hygienic slaughtering of animals and handling of the meat are still not satisfactory, and the transportation of carcasses from the slaughterhouse to the butchers' shops in the Urban and Rural Districts still leaves much to be desired. If it is intended, as a long term policy by the Ministry of Food, to utilise the present premises for centralised slaughtering, then the improvement of conditions thereat is long overdue.

The following animals, a total of 3,021, were inspected at the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse, Bourne, during the year.

Bulls.	Bullocks.	Cows.	Heifers.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.
25	307	309	143	421	1680	136

As a result of such inspections, the following unsound food was voluntarily surrendered and destroyed :—

12 cows' carcasses and all offal	10005 lb. Gen. T.B.
2 heifers' carcasses and all offal	1617 lb. Gen. T.B.
3 bullocks' carcasses and all offal	2332 lb. Gen. T.B.
5 pigs' carcasses and all offal	989 lb. Gen. T.B.
1 calf's carcass and all offal	60 lb. Congenital T.B.
2 cows' carcasses and all offal	1125 lb. T.B. and Emaciation
1 heifer's carcass and all offal	459 lb. T.B. and Emaciation
1 cow's carcass and all offal	705 lb. T.B. and Dropsy
9 sheeps' carcasses and all offal	530 lb. Emaciation & Dropsy
1 cow's carcass and all offal	590 lb. Emaciation & Dropsy
3 cows' carcasses and all offal	1504 lb. Emaciation & Oedema
1 heifer's carcass and all offal	386 lb. Emaciation & Oedema
1 calf's carcass and all offal	143 lb. Emaciation & Oedema
6 sheeps' carcasses and all offal	366 lb. Emaciation & Oedema
1 bull's carcass and all offal	763 lb. Gen. Oedema
1 bullock's carcass and all offal	473 lb. Gen. Oedema
2 cows' carcasses and all offal	1045 lb. Gen. Oedema
2 calves' carcasses and all offal	103 lb. Gen. Oedema
1 sheep's carcass and all offal	74 lb. Gen. Oedema
2 pigs' carcasses and all offal	41 lb. Gen. Oedema
1 cow's carcass and all offal	785 lb. Gen. Oedema & Fever
1 pig's carcass and all offal	150 lb. Gen. Dropsy
2 sheeps' carcasses and all offal	124 lb. Gen. Dropsy
1 calf's carcass and all offal	173 lb. Oedema & Dropsy
1 calf's carcass and all offal	122 lb. Fevered & Dropsy
1 cow's carcass and all offal	539 lb. Jaundice & Dropsy
6 cows' carcasses and all offal	4452 lb. Gen. Fever
1 bullock's carcass and all offal	539 lb. Gen. Fever
2 sheeps' carcasses and all offal	139 lb. Gen. Fever
1 cow's carcass and all offal	780 lb. Fever & Bruising
1 calf's carcass and all offal	85 lb. Fevered
1 bull's carcass and all offal	730 lb. Fever & Peritonitis
34 calves' carcasses and all offal	2234 lb. Joint Ill



28 calves' carcasses and all offal	1650 lb. Immaturity
3 calves' carcasses and all offal	229 lb. Umbilical Pyaemia
2 cows' carcasses and all offal	890 lb. Septicaemia
2 bullocks' carcasses and all offal	626 lb. Septicaemia
1 heifer's carcass and all offal	700 lb. Septicaemia
1 calf's carcass and all offal	174 lb. Septicaemia
2 sheeps' carcasses and all offal	194 lb. Septicaemia
1 bullock's carcass and all offal	993 lb. Septicaemia & Pleurisy
3 cows' carcasses and all offal	1913 lb. Septic Metritis
1 pig's carcass and all offal	164 lb. Septic Pneumonia
1 sheep's carcass and all offal	54 lb. Septic Pneumonia
3 sheeps' carcasses and all offal	233 lb. Septic Pleurisy
1 cow's carcass and all offal	808 lb. Septic Peritonitis
1 pig's carcass and all offal	125 lb. Septic Peritonitis
1 cow's carcass and all offal	531 lb. Septic Nephritis
1 sheep's carcass and all offal	89 lb. Septic Nephritis
1 cow's carcass and all offal	930 lb. Purulent Nephritis
1 pig's carcass and all offal	53 lb. Peritonitis
1 sheep's carcass and all offal	58 lb. Peritonitis
1 bullock's carcass and all offal	857 lb. Gangrenous Pneumonia
1 cow's carcass and all offal	922 lb. Traumatic Pericarditis
2 pigs' carcasses and all offal	297 lb. Swine Erysipelas
3 cows' carcasses and all offal	2366 lb. Moribund
6 sheeps' carcasses and all offal	437 lb. Moribund
1 cow's carcass and all offal	504 lb. Medicine Taint
1 bullock's carcass and all offal	743 lb. Medicine Taint
2 pigs' carcasses and all offal	528 lb. Uraemia
1 sheep's carcass and all offal	76 lb. Multiple Abscesses
1 calf's carcass and all offal	59 lb. Multiple Abscesses
1 bullock's carcass and all offal	657 lb. Bruising, Injury & Gangrene
2 calves' carcasses and all offal	120 lb. Bruising
1 cow's carcass and all offal	767 lb. Bruising
Parts of carcasses and various offals of all food animals	14975 lb. Various Diseases too numerous to record individually.

Total weight of unsound food voluntarily surrendered and destroyed :—

30 tons	6 cwts.	0 qr.	12 lb.	as compared with
19 tons	18 cwts.	1 qr.	0 lb.	for the previous year.

It will be noted that there has been a large increase in the amount of unsound meat condemned during the year as compared with the previous year. This can be attributed to the fact that there were 309 cows slaughtered last year as compared with 149 for the year 1949.

29 cows were condemned for diseases other than tuberculosis and 15 cows were condemned for tuberculosis, as against 15 and 10 respectively for the previous year. Another factor which has influenced this increase in the amount of meat condemned is that much of the prime quality beef produced in this area has been sent for slaughter to towns in the Midlands, and this area has received in return meat of a much poorer grade.

The following table gives details of carcasses inspected and condemned and the percentages of the total number of carcasses inspected which were found to be affected with (1) diseases other than tuberculosis and (2) tuberculosis.

### **Carcasses Inspected and Condemned.**

		Cattle excluding				Sheep and	
		Cows	Cows	Calves	Lambs	Pigs	
Number killed (if known) ...	...	475	309	421	1680	136	
Number inspected		475	309	421	1680	136	
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis :</b>							
(a) Whole carcasses ... condemned ...	...	12	29	75	35	10	
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	...	115	93	3	53	54	
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis		26.74%	39.48%	18.53%	5.24%	47.06%	
<b>Tuberculosis only :</b>							
(a) Whole carcasses condemned ...	...	6	15	1	—	5	
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	...	77	110	—	—	6	
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis		17.47%	40.45%	0.24%	—	8.09%	

In addition to the unsound meat condemned at the Slaughterhouse, the following articles of unsound food were voluntarily surrendered by grocers in the District :-

Item	Cause	Weight
1 tin of Herrings in tomato sauce	Blown	14 ozs.
1 tin of Beans in tomato sauce	Blown	1 lb. 10 ozs.
3 tins of Peas	Blown	3 lb. 9 ozs.
3 tins of Peas	Perforated	3 lb. 9 ozs.
1 tin of Tomato Juice	Perforated	14 ozs.
13 tins of Pork Loaf	Blown	6 lb. 9 ozs.
2 tins of Pork Loaf	Perforated	1 lb. 3 ozs.
1 tin of Minced Beef Loaf	Blown	12 ozs.
1 tin of Unsweetened Milk	Damaged & Decomposed	14 ozs.
1 tin of Sweetened Milk	Damaged & Decomposed	14 ozs.
1 tin of Sweetened Milk	Blown	14 ozs.
3 tins of Unsweetened Milk	Blown	2 lb. 10 ozs.
6 tins of Unsweetened Milk	Perforated	5 lb. 4 ozs.

Total weight of unsound tinned foodstuffs voluntarily surrendered and destroyed :—

1 qr.      1 lb.      8 ozs.

#### 4. Housing.

During the year, 350 houses were inspected and categorised in accordance with the recommendations of the Hobhouse Committee on Rural Housing and the following table gives details of these, together with an accumulative statistical summary of the details obtained to date.

#### Rural Housing Survey, 1950.

Village	Categorisation of Houses						Premises Not Categorised	Total Houses Inspected
	1	2	3	4	5			
Hawthorpe ...	...	—	—	5	1	4	—	10
Bulby ...	...	—	1	8	2	4	—	15
Irnham ...	...	10	4	16	—	3	5	38
Tallington ...	...	11	2	22	2	14	—	51
Uffington ...	...	25	1	28	14	22	—	90
Newstead ...	...	—	—	3	4	2	—	9
West Deeping ...	...	15	2	31	4	23	—	75
Witham-on-the-Hill		9	1	19	18	13	2	62
TOTALS ...	...	70	11	132	45	85	7	350
Plus previous inspections	...	222	97	1542	190	541	60	2652
Totals to 31st December, 1950 ...		292	108	1674	235	626	67	3002

The systematic inspection of dwelling-houses in the District has now resolved itself into a routine job, to be done as and when pressure of other duties will allow, as there appears to be no urgency in complet-



ing the survey quickly at the present time on account of the restrictive controls on building works and building labour. It is a matter for much regret that action cannot be taken now with a view to improving the housing conditions of our rural cottages, as visualised by the Hobhouse Committee and by Sanitary Officers generally when the Survey was commenced in 1945. There is not the slightest doubt that when the time is opportune and conditions are favourable to take action in this respect many of the houses placed in categories 3 and 4, must inevitably have further deteriorated and will be suitable only for demolition. The only good point in favour of continuing the Survey at the present time is to give the Council some idea of the number of houses which will require replacement in years to come. In this connection, it will be noted that 626 houses, or 20.85% of the total number inspected, have been classified for demolition.

It seems a great pity that, in connection with rural workers' cottages, the old proverb—"a stitch in time saves nine"—is ignored. Much good work was done in Rural Districts, in the years preceding 1939 with the aid of the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts and the lives of many of our farm-workers' cottages were prolonged. The new improvement grants under the Housing Act, 1949, have not replaced those given under the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts, and it is significant to note that not a single application for assistance in this respect was received during 1950. Consequently, housing conditions generally in the area have rapidly deteriorated during the past eleven years. This deterioration must be halted soon otherwise the drift of labour from rural areas to the towns will be bound to continue, with the ultimate diminution of food production. Not the least important factor in helping to halt this drift of labour is the provision for the agricultural worker, of the same amenities and comforts as those enjoyed by the town dweller, including a well constructed house, provided with a bathroom, a pure and wholesome water supply and modern sanitation.

During the year, 21 new dwelling-houses were erected by private enterprise under licence, and the Council built 28 houses.

## **5. Drainage.**

Drainage troubles continue to take up a large amount of your Officers' time and sewage disposal problems become increasingly acute as each month goes by. It is, however, gratifying to record that H.M. Government has now sanctioned the commencement of the proposed three new Sewerage Schemes for the villages of (a) Billingborough and Horbling, (b) Corby, and (c) Baston, Langtoft, Market Deeping and Deeping St. James. Starting dates have been authorised in all three cases, and it is hoped that all the Schemes will be in progress by the end of 1951. When these Schemes are eventually completed, approximately 5,600 persons or 39.4% of the total population of the Area will be able to enjoy the amenities resulting from main drainage.



Now that the Council's new Water Schemes are nearing completion it is obvious that more and more householders will wish to provide themselves with bathrooms and water closets, and in the villages set out above which are to have the benefit of main drainage, in time this will present no difficulty. Nevertheless, there will still remain some 27 parishes, with a population of over 9,000, in the Council's Area which will have no prospects of new Sewerage Schemes for many years to come, and, with the advent of piped water to all these villages, the additional sewage arising from new water closets discharging into the antiquated and inadequate sewers in these villages, will increase the nuisances already existing in the many dykes into which these sewers discharge.

It is appreciated that the ratepayers will be faced with increased rate demands to pay for the new Water Schemes and Sewerage Schemes, for many years to come, nevertheless the claims of other large built-up villages, such as Morton and Thurlby, for new Sewerage Schemes must be considered in the future and I would again strongly recommend co-operation with the Bourne Urban District Council in providing a joint sewage disposal works at Bourne for the Town and for the villages of Morton and Thurlby which are situated on either side of Bourne, some  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles to the north and south respectively.

The Department continues to give periodical attention to the many foul sewer dykes in the District but regular cleansing of same only serves as a temporary alleviation of what are serious and continuing nuisances. Similarly, frequent attention, has of necessity to be given to the many old brick and stone sewers in the various villages, which sewers were probably quite satisfactory for their original purpose of carrying surface water but are totally unsatisfactory for use as foul sewers which they have become by usage.

From the statistics at the beginning of this Report, it will be noted that your Officers made 703 visits in connection with drainage during the year and whilst, in the main, these visits were in regard to sewers and drains, they included visits also in connection with the roding, cleansing and improvement of parish watercourses on which a considerable amount of time had to be spent to check up on work carried out by part-time labour.

Improvement schemes on parish watercourses were carried out in 3 villages during the year amounting in total length to 95 chains of parish dykes cleansed at a total cost of £130/10/0, and annual roding of other watercourses was carried out in 9 parishes.

## **6. Cleansing Services.**

(a) REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL. The household refuse collection scheme continues to provide a welcome service to householders and is functioning satisfactorily. Complaints of non-collection of refuse from houses are dealt with as they arise.

Every village in the District is visited by the Council's Refuse Freighter once per fortnight, and refuse is collected from containers

placed at the kerbside by householders. Refuse is disposed of by tipping at refuse pits situated at Billingham, Corby, Swinstead and Deeping St. James. It is estimated that over 1,500 tons of household refuse were collected and tipped at the Refuse Tips during the year.

No special effort was made, during the year, in regard to the collection of waste paper, on account of the low price per ton received for same, which made it an uneconomic proposition from the Council's point of view to collect and sell it. Nevertheless, any waste paper placed out at the side of refuse containers by householders for collection was removed and we did not in fact discontinue our salvage collection service altogether, although only 4 tons 13½ cwt. of waste paper were sold during the year. Towards the end of the year, however, waste paper "came into its own" again, the price rocketed to a sum which made it a worthwhile proposition for the Council to collect it, and arrangements were put in hand with the object of increasing the yield of this material during 1951. Details of waste paper collected and sold during 1950 are as follows :—

Materials				Weight		Cash realised		
				Tons	Cwts.	lb.	£	s. d.
PAPER, etc.								
(a)	Mixed Waste	...		1	15	56	8	17 6
(b)	Books & Magazines			1	10	0	9	0 0
(c)	Newsprint	...	...	1	8	0	9	16 0
TOTALS				4	13	56	£27	13 6

(b) PAIL EMPTYING SCHEME. In April, 1950, the Council's new Pail Emptying Scheme was instituted and is functioning very satisfactorily. This new service has been welcomed by most of the householders who have to use pail closets, and particularly by those in the built-up areas where many of the houses are provided with limited amounts of garden space, in which, in the past, the occupants have had to dig holes in which to dispose of this waste matter. Complaints of non-emptying of pails are very few and these are remedied immediately they arise.

The emptying of pails is carried out weekly as a free service and is executed by two 800 gallons capacity Cesspool Emptying Vehicles provided with pail hopper attachments, each vehicle being manned with a team of three men, comprising a Driver/Loader and two Loaders. Approximately 2,118 pails are emptied weekly and both vehicles are engaged practically full-time on this work for 5 days each week.

A great deal of time and thought has had to be given to the organisation of this Scheme and to the question of disposal of this nightsoil. During the late summer and autumn, there is no difficulty in disposing of this waste matter, as many farmers are pleased to have it deposited on arable land for ploughing in as manure. At other times of the year however, alternative arrangements have to be made, and after several "teething" troubles with different sites, two farmers in the Area were so convinced of the value of this material, that they offered to provide



compost pits at their farms in which the Council could dispose of the nightsoil on to straw provided by the farmers concerned.

In addition to the weekly pail emptying service, vaults, cesspools and septic tanks at dwelling-houses in the District are emptied upon request upon payment by the householders desiring such service. Details of such work carried out during the year are as follows :—

### Emptying of Vaults, Cesspools, Septic Tanks, etc.

Number of			
(a) Septic Tanks emptied	...	...	25
(b) Cesspools emptied	...	...	35
(c) Single Vaults emptied	...	...	69
(d) Double Vaults emptied	...	...	7
(e) Ponds emptied	...	...	1
(f) Sewers emptied	...	...	1
(g) Rainwater cisterns emptied	...	...	1
TOTAL ...			139

## 7. Water Supplies.

The Council's new Water Schemes continued to progress during the year and up to the 31st December, 1950, on Contract No. 1, all the main-laying had been completed, a total distance of approximately 43 miles of various diameter pipes having been laid. The booster stations at Castle Bytham and Bulby were practically completed and work was in progress on the installation of pumping machinery. In addition 85 connections had been made from house services to the Council's mains.

In connection with Contract No. 2, this was nearing completion at the end of the year, a total distance of approximately 6½ miles of various diameter pipes having been laid. The booster station at Lound was practically completed and work was in progress on the installation of pumping machinery.

The villages of Wilsthorpe, Braceborough, Greatford, Barholm, Tallington and West Deeping are now on the Peterborough supply.

The villages and hamlets of Horbling, Billingborough, Bridge End, Birthorpe, Folkingham, Laughton, Aslackby, Pointon, Millthorpe, Little Dowsby, Graby, Dowsby, Rippingale, Kirkby Underwood and Stainfield are supplied from the bore at Billingborough.

It was anticipated, at the end of the year, that the new Schemes would all be completed by May, 1951, and that, thereafter, approximately 95% of all the properties in the Rural District would be able to take a piped supply of pure drinking water from the new mains.

The new Schemes for the whole of the District are to replace the fifteen separate water installations owned by the Council many of which installations have proved to be most unsatisfactory in the past on account of their insufficiency of supply, breakdowns and intermittent pollution.

Your Public Health Officers have continued to take samples from the existing water installations and from private bores, wells, etc. and details of the results found upon analysis are as follows :—

#### WATER SAMPLES.

1.	From Council's Installations ...	...	...	11
	(a) Number found to be satisfactory	...	...	10
	(b) Number found to be polluted	...	...	1
2.	From private bores, wells, etc.	...	...	21
	(a) Number found to be satisfactory	...	...	11
	(b) Number found to be polluted	...	...	10

The sample from the Council's public supply which was found to be polluted was from the village of Swayfield which supply has been unsatisfactory for several years. Until Swayfield is supplied from the new Scheme, all that could be done was to renew the warning notices which had been posted in the village previously, drawing the attention of the residents to such pollution and strongly advising them to boil all water used for drinking purposes. In the case of the polluted private supplies, the occupiers of the houses concerned were advised also to boil the water, and notices were served upon the owners requesting them to take a supply from the Council's mains, where possible, or to provide an alternative pure and sufficient supply where the Council's water is not available.

Details of the number of dwelling-houses supplied from public water mains (a) direct to houses, and (b) by means of standpipes, are as follows :—

				Direct	Standpipe
Aslackby and Laughton	...	...	...	52	13
Barholm and Stowe	...	...	...	9	5
Baston	...	...	...	95	—
Billingborough	...	...	...	151	56
Braceborough and Wilsthorpe	...	...	...	18	4
Bytham, Castle	...	...	...	88	37
Bytham, Little	...	...	...	56	21
Careby, Aunby and Holywell	...	...	...	6	—
Carlby	...	...	...	—	—
Corby	...	...	...	164	5
Counthorpe and Creeton	...	...	...	22	4
Deeping St. James	...	...	...	287	114
Deeping, Market	...	...	...	264	6
Deeping, West	...	...	...	68	3
Dowsby	...	...	...	30	13
Dunsby	...	...	...	—	—
Edenham	...	...	...	—	—
Folkingham	...	...	...	180	14
Greatford	...	...	...	15	12
Haconby	...	...	...	59	—



					Direct	Standpipe
Horbling	...	...	...	...	38	—
Irnham	...	...	...	...	—	—
Kirkby Underwood	...	...	...	...	31	1
Langtoft	...	...	...	...	79	—
Morton	...	...	...	...	241	—
Pointon and Sempringham	...	...	...	...	47	10
Rippingale	...	...	...	...	85	4
Swayfield	...	...	...	...	34	7
Swinstead	...	...	...	...	60	7
Tallington	...	...	...	...	43	3
Thurlby	...	...	...	...	142	15
Toft, Lound and Manthorpe	...	...	...	...	12	—
Uffington	...	...	...	...	41	23
Witham-on-the-Hill	...	...	...	...	—	—
					—	—
			Totals	...	2417	377

## 8. Rodent Control.

During the year, the Council's duties and powers were increased considerably by the coming into operation, on the 31st March, 1950, of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

A sub-committee was appointed to consider the operation of this Act, and it was decided to increase the amount of time to be devoted to this work by appointing the Council's Rodent Operator (Mr. E. Wilson) on a half-time basis instead of the latter working for the Council for one week out of every three. Towards the end of the year, it was becoming apparent that the appointment of a full-time Rodent Operator would be necessary to carry out the obligations placed upon the Council under the new Act.

Regular attention was given during the year by the Rodent Operator to the Refuse Tips used by the Council and to the many sewer dykes throughout the District in connection with infestations by rats thereat. In addition, 46 private dwelling-houses and 4 business premises were treated, and, in consequence of all these operations, 1380 rats were found to have been killed as compared with 934 for the previous year.

## 9. Petroleum Acts.

During the year, 129 visits were made to premises where petroleum spirit is stored and 66 licences were issued by the Department after storage conditions had been found to be satisfactory and when the usual safety precautions in regard to fire had been complied with.

## 10. Building Licences.

Sixty-one visits were made in connection with applications received for Building Licences during the year, and, as has been the case in previous years, the work has proceeded smoothly and expeditiously.

The Council's Building Licences Sub-Committee, comprising Councillors G. G. Crowson, E. B. Binns and G. H. Taylor, has again devoted a great deal of time and thought to this work, and the Council's thanks are again due to these members for the valuable assistance they have given to your Officers in administering the onerous duties imposed upon the Council under Defence Regulation 56A.

During the year, 2 licences were issued for the erection of dwelling-houses by private enterprise, but, at the end of the year, there were still 44 applications for such licences on the Department's files.

The following statistics give details of the numbers of licences issued by the Council and by the Ministry of Works during the year.

### 1. Number of licences issued by the Council.

(a) for the erection of new dwelling-houses	...	2
(b) for repairs, maintenance and additions to dwelling-houses	... ..	32

Amount authorised to be spent

(a) for the erection of new dwelling-houses	£3,353 18 2
(b) for repairs, maintenance and additions to dwelling-houses	... .. £10,682 11 6

### 2. Number of licences issued by the Ministry of Works.

(a) for the erection of new farm-houses	... .. 2
(b) for repairs to premises other than dwelling-houses and for the erection of new buildings other than dwelling-houses	... .. 33

Amount authorised to be spent

(a) for the erection of new farm-houses	... .. £4,500
(b) for repairs to premises other than dwelling-houses and for the erection of new buildings other than dwelling-houses	... .. £19,496

## 11. Building Inspections.

Despite the restrictions imposed by the Defence Regulations concerning Building Licensing, the Council's Plans Committee, during the past year, has dealt with an average of approximately 15 plans per month and your Officers have carried out 361 inspections of building works in progress and have examined and tested 82 new drainage systems.

## 12. Staff.

Once again, I must record my appreciation of the assistance I have received from Messrs. J. G. Clements and B. F. Larkinson in connection with the technical duties of the Department, and from Mrs.

J. E. Fisher-Smith and Miss C. Gilbert in connection with the clerical and administrative work which has increased considerably in recent years.

I must again draw the Council's attention to the total inadequacy of the office accommodation in the Public Health Department. Whilst my own office is small, the general office accommodating Messrs. Clements and Larkinson, Mrs. J. E. Fisher-Smith and Miss Gilbert is grossly overcrowded. In addition, the output of work tends to suffer on account of the many callers at the Public Health Department, as those members of the staff not attending to such callers cannot satisfactorily proceed with their work on this account. I would again stress the necessity for increased office accommodation for the members of my staff.

In conclusion, my sincere thanks are extended to my fellow Officers and Members of the Council for the courtesy and co-operation given to me during the year in the discharge of the many and varied duties of the Public Health Department.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WALTER A. CHIVERS,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.







